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A DOMINO'S COUPON GIVES BUDGETING COLLEGE STUDENTS A LOT OF BANG
FOR THEIR BUCK

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For college students living on a budget, pizza is a go-to staple meal. What can go wrong with a good, old-fashioned crust, marinara sauce, and cheese? Domino's, on the other hand, has taken it one step further. Called the Perfect Combo Deal, Domino's offers a coupon for two medium one-topping pizzas, 16-piece parmesan bread bites and eight-piece cinnamon twists for only \$19.99.

You heard me. All that food for only \$19.99.

To give context on the circumstances, this was the night before the first day of spring classes, and I was with my three closest friends. Three of the four of us had just flown in from our respective homes and unpacked, settling back into our college dorms. Two of us had been awake since 5 a.m. to catch our flights, and we were physically and mentally exhausted after the day we had. Of course, the thought of starting the spring quarter too was adding onto the stress looming over us. I mention all this to emphasize the point that my friends and I were all very much down in the dumps, but this Domino's feast single-handedly brought us out of them.

Since we had not seen each other in a while, we met up in one of our dorms — in 636 Emerson to be exact — and planned for dinner and a show as a nice, peaceful way to hang out

one last time before our hectic class schedules started up. However, for dinner, all of us detested the idea of heading over to Allison dining hall, and we were appalled by the lack of coupon offers on UberEats and DoorDash as well. Then, it hit one of my friends to order a pizza. As we compared the prices of Domino's and Papa Johns, it was the same friend who then directed our attention to the Perfect Combo Deal. Doing the math, if we split the food between the four of us, we would each only pay \$5.51 after tax while having enough food for dinner and even future leftovers. Adding and customizing the deal to our liking, we also added a two-liter bottle of Sprite to our cart to sip luxuriously on Shirley Temples alongside our feast. Furthermore, to save on delivery fees, two of us walked the short eight-minute trek to the Domino's store on Foster Street. As we sped walked back to the dorm with four different boxes and a two-liter Sprite in our arms, we tried our best to ignore the strong smell of cinnamon and sugar for the sake of our growling tummies.

Back at the dorm, with a three-course meal ahead of us, my friends and I greedily dug in to satiate our starving bellies. Starting off with a light appetizer of parmesan garlic bites, we grew increasingly excited for the following courses. The dough was soft and fluffy, and while it was a little big soggy biting into it, the bread soaked up the butter on top and filled our mouths with the savory goodness. In fact, the four of us dragged our half-eaten balls of dough across the bottom of the cardboard box to pick up more garlic bits.

Moving onto the main course, we had one classic pepperoni pizza and one black olive pizza. For me personally, the best part about a Domino's pizza is the "handtossed, garlic-seasoned crust with a rich, buttery taste," as described on their menu. While the sauce, the cheese and the toppings of a Domino's pizza are delicious in and of itself, the crust is much like a garlic breadstick and quite a satisfying way to finish off a slice of pizza.

Last but certainly not least, the cinnamon twists. My, my, my. The cinnamon twists. The knots of dough were larger than I anticipated them to be and were doused in butter and cinnamon sugar. The cherry on top though was most definitely the icing served on the side. At that moment, there was nothing that could have upset any of us. There was nothing to frown about — only smiles and laughter graced our faces. We all went in for a bite of the sweet dessert sans icing, and I shut my eyes and basked in the deliciousness gracing my tongue with its presence. However, when we dipped our knots in the icing, it was simply game over. One could argue we all had an outer body experience having that bite.

Reflecting on this course meal, I would rate it a 12 out of 10 if I could do such a thing. To this day, this night lives in my mind quite vividly: the laughs we shared, the conversations we had and, of course, the scrumptious food and drink to accompany it all. I highly recommend this coupon deal to everyone, and I can say with 100% certainty that my friends and I are planning on re-ordering this exact feast during the coming weekend.